PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION
ON THE
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY
200 Maryland Ave. NE.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002

EARL WARREN, Chairman
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J. LEE RANKIN, General Counsel

FEB 12 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Mr. Hoover:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 7, 1964, sent in response to my letter of February 4, 1964, requesting a detailed description of the so-called evidentiary facts upon which the Bureau based its ultimate conclusions that (a) Q1, Q2, and Q3, a bullet and bullet fragments, were fired from K1, the rifle, (See Special Agent Gemberling's report dated November 30, 1963, at pages 162-164); (b) Q6 and Q7, two cartridge cases, were fired in K1 (See Special Agent Gemberling's report dated November 30, 1963, at pages 162-164); (c) Q48, a cartridge case, was fired in K1 (See Special Agent Gemberling's report dated December 10, 1963 at pages 333-334); and (d) Q74-77, four .38 Special cartridge cases, were fired in K3, the revolver (See Special Agent Gemberling's report dated December 10, 1963, at page 351).

The Commission, myself and the staff are faced with the problem of eventually making a public explanation which can be readily understood in concrete evidentiary terms rather than by expert conclusion, much in the same manner as ballistic evidence and testimony of experts is demonstrated to a lay jury. We would therefore appreciate it if you could set forth, in detail, a comparison of the markings on the fired bullet and cartridges with the test bullets and cartridges.

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With this end in view the Commission has requested that I again write you on this subject and request that the Bureau submit to it a description of the appropriate evidentiary detail underlying the above referred to conclusions and demonstrating their validity.

Sincerely,

J. Lee Rankin

J. Lee Rankin
General Counsel